

...JANUARY 2010 REGIONAL CLIMATE SUMMARY...

SUMMARY FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AND MONTEREY BAY AREA...

JANUARY 2010 WAS A WET MONTH...MOSTLY BECAUSE OF A SERIES OF POWERFUL STORMS THAT SWEEPED THROUGH CALIFORNIA DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF THE MONTH. TEMPERATURES WERE SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL...DUE IN LARGE PART TO MILD OVERNIGHT TEMPERATURES DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH.

THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY WAS DRY AS HIGH PRESSURE HELD FIRM ALONG THE WEST COAST AND DEFLECTED MOST INCOMING PACIFIC STORMS WELL TO OUR NORTH. ONE WEATHER SYSTEM MANAGED TO BRING LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINFALL TO THE REGION ON THE 12TH...BUT OTHERWISE THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY WAS MOSTLY DEVOID OF PRECIPITATION. LIGHT WINDS AND A STABLE AIRMASS UNDER THE RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE ALLOWED DENSE FOG TO DEVELOP ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA DURING THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF JANUARY.

THE SECOND HALF OF JANUARY WAS VERY WET AS A STRONG AND MOIST FLOW ACROSS THE PACIFIC FINALLY REACHED THE WEST COAST. THE WEATHER PATTERN DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH WAS TYPICAL OF A PATTERN INFLUENCED BY A STRONG EL NINO. BEGINNING ON THE 18TH...A PARADE OF POWERFUL STORMS SLAMMED INTO CALIFORNIA...EACH ARRIVING ABOUT ONE DAY APART. PERIODS OF HEAVY RAIN AND STRONG WINDS PUMMELED THE REGION FROM THE 18TH THROUGH THE 23RD. ALTHOUGH RAIN WAS HEAVY AT TIMES... THERE WAS ENOUGH OF A BREAK BETWEEN HEAVY RAIN EVENTS TO ALLOW WATER LEVELS TO DROP ON AREA RIVERS AND STREAMS BEFORE THE NEXT STORM ROLLED IN. THEREFORE...WIDESPREAD FLOODING DID NOT OCCUR. HOWEVER... OUR REGION DID NOT ESCAPE FLOODING ENTIRELY. THE WILLOW BROOK CREEK FLOODED PORTIONS OF PETALUMA ON THE 20TH. ALSO...THE PESCADERO CREEK IN SAN MATEO COUNTY PEAKED A BIT ABOVE FLOOD STAGE ON THAT SAME DAY.

RAINFALL TOTALS FOR THE WEEK OF THE 17TH WERE IMPRESSIVE. TOTAL RAINFALL AMOUNTS FROM THE 17TH THROUGH THE 22ND INCLUDE:

.NORTH BAY

CAZADERO 1558'	13.46 INCHES
VENADO 1260'	10.40
MOUNT ST HELENA 4140'	7.21
SANTA ROSA	6.09
SANTA ROSA AIRPORT	7.32
KENTFIELD	8.34
SAN RAFAEL	8.68
NAPA	6.45

.SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...EAST AND SOUTH BAY

REDWOOD CITY	5.27
OAKLAND MUSEUM	4.87
HAYWARD AIRPORT	3.98
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	4.76
SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN	4.57
MOFFETT FIELD	3.95
CONCORD AIRPORT	4.16
LIVERMORE AIRPORT	2.75

RICHMOND.....	5.49
SAN JOSE AIRPORT.....	3.54
MORGAN HILL.....	6.11
GILROY.....	5.00

.SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

MOUNT UMUNHUM 3090'.....	10.24
BEN LOMOND 2630'.....	9.10
LA HONDA 872'.....	6.73
CORRALITOS 327'.....	5.21
LAS TRAMPAS 1760'.....	5.32

.MONTEREY BAY AREA

MONTEREY.....	4.17
SALINAS.....	3.27
CARMEL VALLEY.....	4.58
SANTA CRUZ.....	4.88
HOLLISTER.....	4.78
KING CITY.....	3.51

.MONTEREY COUNTY MOUNTAINS

MINING RIDGE 3288'.....	13.14
ANDERSON PEAK 3368'.....	10.04
THREE PEAKS 3362'.....	9.97
CHALK PEAK 3432'.....	9.99
ARROYO SECO 980'.....	8.25
BIG SUR 450'.....	7.63

IN ADDITION TO HEAVY RAINFALL...THREE STORMS FROM THE 18TH THROUGH THE 20TH PRODUCED STRONG AND GUSTY WINDS ACROSS THE AREA. WIND GUSTS OF BETWEEN 50 AND 70 MPH WERE COMMON ON THOSE DAYS AND RESULTED IN DOWNED TREES AND NUMEROUS POWER OUTAGES.

THE STORMS THAT IMPACTED THE REGION DURING THE THIRD WEEK IN JANUARY WERE POWERFUL ENOUGH...AND CONTAINED ENOUGH UNSTABLE AIR...TO GENERATE SEVERAL THUNDERSTORM EVENTS ACROSS OUR AREA. MANY OF THE THUNDERSTORMS THAT RUMBLED ACROSS THE REGION PRODUCED HAIL AND A SEVERAL OF THE STORMS REACHED SEVERE LEVELS. A WEAK TORNADO TOUCHED DOWN IN EASTERN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ON THE 23RD. ALL TOLD...DURING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 17TH...THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE IN MONTEREY ISSUED TWO TORNADO WARNINGS...FIVE SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS...AND FIVE SPECIAL MARINE WARNINGS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO AND MONTEREY BAY AREAS.

A BLAST OF COLDER AIR ARRIVED LATE IN THE WEEK...DROPPING SNOW LEVELS AS LOW AS 1400 FEET ON FRIDAY THE 22ND. NEARLY FOUR INCHES OF SNOW ACCUMULATED ATOP MOUNT HAMILTON.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE READINGS DROPPED TO VERY LOW LEVELS ON THURSDAY THE 21ST. AT NOON THAT DAY...BAROMETRIC PRESSURE READINGS AT AREA AIRPORTS FELL TO BETWEEN 28.85 TO 28.95 INCHES OF MERCURY. HISTORIC DATA ON BAROMETRIC PRESSURE IS SPARSE AND SO ITS DIFFICULT TO SAY HOW CLOSE THESE VALUES CAME TO SETTING RECORDS. IN ANY CASE... THESE PRESSURE READINGS ARE EXTRAORDINARILY LOW FOR OUR REGION.

THE WEATHER BECAME MORE TRANQUIL DURING THE FINAL WEEK OF JANUARY WITH ONLY LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINFALL AMOUNTS. FOR THE MONTH AS A WHOLE...RAINFALL TOTALS WERE GENERALLY ABOUT 150% OF NORMAL. PORTIONS OF INTERIOR MONTEREY COUNTY AND SAN BENITO COUNTY ACCUMULATED IN EXCESS OF TWICE THEIR AVERAGE JANUARY RAINFALL.

YEAR-TO-DATE (YTD) RAINFALL TOTALS TOOK A BIG JUMP DURING THE SECOND HALF OF JANUARY. ON THE 15TH OF THE MONTH...YTD RAINFALL TOTALS WERE GENERALLY ONLY ABOUT 70 TO 80 PERCENT OF NORMAL. BY THE END OF THE MONTH YTD TOTALS INCREASED TO 100 TO 130 PERCENT OF NORMAL.

HIGH TEMPERATURES FOR THE MONTH WERE GENERALLY BELOW NORMAL...MOSTLY DUE TO SIGNIFICANT CLOUD COVER DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH. THE LARGEST NEGATIVE HIGH TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES WERE IN THE NORTH AND EAST BAY VALLEYS...WHERE SEVERAL FOGGY DAYS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE MONTH KEPT TEMPERATURES COOL. MOSTLY CLOUDY CONDITIONS DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH HELPED HOLD NIGHTTIME TEMPERATURES UP. AVERAGE MINIMUM TEMPERATURES FOR JANUARY WERE ABOVE NORMAL AT ALL REPORTING LOCATIONS AND IN A FEW CASES CONSIDERABLY ABOVE NORMAL. NO DAILY RECORD TEMPERATURE RECORDS WERE SET OR TIED DURING JANUARY 2010.

...JANUARY REGIONAL TEMPERATURE SUMMARY...

LOCATION	DEPARTURE			DEPARTURE		
	AVG HIGH	NORMAL HIGH	FROM NORMAL	AVG LOW	NORMAL LOW	FROM NORMAL
NORTH BAY...						
ANGWIN	51.2	52.9	-1.7	40.6	38.0	2.6
KENTFIELD	53.1	56.2	-3.1	43.9	40.4	3.5
NAPA	55.9	57.5	-1.6	42.6	39.1	3.5
PETALUMA	M	57.2	M	M	38.2	M
SAINT HELENA	55.3	57.4	-2.1	42.6	36.9	5.7
SAN RAFAEL	52.6	56.2	-3.6	44.2	41.3	2.9
SANTA ROSA	56.3	57.6	-1.3	42.5	38.7	3.8
SONOMA	54.8	58.2	-3.4	41.6	37.2	4.4

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	59.6	58.7	0.9	45.8	43.2	2.6
PACIFICA	M	56.5	M	M	45.7	M
REDWOOD CITY	56.9	58.5	-1.6	42.5	39.8	2.7
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	55.6	56.1	-0.5	46.8	42.9	3.9
SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN	55.7	57.5	-1.8	47.7	46.4	1.3
WOODSIDE	M	60.0	M	M	36.6	M

EAST BAY...

BERKELEY	57.7	56.6	1.1	44.6	44.2	0.4
CONCORD	55.0	57.2	-2.2	43.9	41.6	2.3
FREMONT	57.7	58.8	-1.1	43.9	42.6	1.3
LIVERMORE	55.1	57.0	-1.9	41.1	37.4	3.7
MARTINEZ	54.0	55.0	-1.0	40.7	39.1	1.6
MOUNT DIABLO						
JUNCTION	53.6	55.6	-2.0	42.9	39.2	3.7
NEWARK	57.7	57.6	0.1	43.8	42.0	1.8
OAKLAND	58.9	57.3	1.6	45.8	44.8	1.0
RICHMOND	M	57.7	M	M	42.9	M

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

BEN LOMOND	60.3	61.4	-1.1	40.2	37.1	3.1
GILROY	59.4	59.8	-0.4	42.5	37.7	4.8
LOS GATOS	57.3	58.6	-1.3	40.4	38.5	1.9
MOUNT HAMILTON	48.1	49.4	-1.3	39.8	37.5	2.3
SAN JOSE	58.1	58.4	-0.3	43.9	41.6	2.3
SANTA CRUZ	60.4	60.7	-0.3	43.3	39.9	3.4
WATSONVILLE	61.6	60.5	1.1	43.3	39.3	4.0

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

BIG SUR STATION	M	60.0	M	M	43.2	M
CARMEL VALLEY	63.3	63.6	-0.3	41.6	38.7	2.9
HOLLISTER	58.7	60.8	-2.1	42.2	38.0	4.2
KING CITY	63.1	62.8	0.3	42.2	35.8	6.4
MONTEREY	59.2	60.1	-0.9	45.8	43.9	1.9
PINNACLES NATIONAL						
MONUMENT	61.8	61.6	0.2	36.4	32.8	3.6
SALINAS	63.2	62.5	0.7	43.3	41.3	2.0

...JANUARY REGIONAL PRECIPITATION SUMMARY...

LOCATION	JAN TOTAL	AVERAGE JAN PRECIP	PERCENT OF NORMAL
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NORTH BAY...

ANGWIN	13.07	8.15	160
CALISTOGA	M	7.74	M
CLOVERDALE	M	8.82	M
FORT ROSS	M	7.46	M
HEALDSBURG	M	8.80	M
KENTFIELD	13.28	9.60	138
MUIR WOODS	11.29	7.37	153
NAPA	9.19	5.35	172
OCCIDENTAL	16.22	11.69	139
PETALUMA	M	5.33	M
SAINT HELENA	12.24	7.40	165
SAN RAFAEL	12.39	7.38	168

SANTA ROSA	9.48	6.13	155
SONOMA	8.44	6.52	129

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	6.40	5.55	115
PACIFICA	8.94	6.28	142
PALO ALTO	M	3.24	M
REDWOOD CITY	6.33	4.19	151
SAN FRANCISCO			
AIRPORT	5.97	4.45	134
SAN FRANCISCO			
DOWNTOWN	6.66	4.53	147
WOODSIDE	M	6.52	M

EAST BAY...

BERKELEY	7.66	5.45	141
CONCORD	6.17	3.78	163
FREMONT	4.36	3.05	143
LIVERMORE	3.53	2.99	118
MARTINEZ	6.43	4.25	151
MOUNT DIABLO			
JUNCTION	9.07	4.76	191
NEWARK	4.64	2.96	157
OAKLAND	6.25	4.85	129
RICHMOND	6.36	4.91	130

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

BEN LOMOND	14.76	10.18	145
GILROY	6.14	4.32	142
LOS GATOS	8.57	4.94	173
MOUNT HAMILTON	6.64	4.42	150
SAN JOSE	4.58	3.03	151
SANTA CRUZ	8.19	6.49	126
WATSONVILLE	6.12	4.72	130

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

BIG SUR STATION	M	9.13	M
CARMEL VALLEY	5.85	3.49	168
HOLLISTER	4.58	2.91	157
KING CITY	4.62	2.21	209
MONTEREY	6.54	4.19	156
PINNACLES NATIONAL			
MONUMENT	7.68	3.20	240
SALINAS	4.48	3.00	149

...DAILY PRECIPITATION RECORDS FOR JANUARY 2010...

RECORD	OLD
PRECIP	RECORD

DATE	LOCATION	(INCHES)	
1/19	SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	1.55	1.07 IN 1962
1/20	SAN JOSE	1.28	1.26 IN 1894

...MONTHLY RANKS FOR DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO...

AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURE.....55.7.....59TH COOLEST
 AVERAGE LOW TEMPERATURE.....47.7.....21ST WARMEST
 MONTHLY RAINFALL.....6.66 INCHES.....38TH WETTEST

NOTE: THIS CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA IS PRELIMINARY. FOR OFFICIAL
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